Domain names and cybersquatting

The Internet has created plenty of opportunities for small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) as it has revolutionised the dynamics of international commerce and is an excellent means to boost brand visibility.

The Internet acts as a gateway for SMEs, but it is also an ideal platform for infringers to sell counterfeit products and commit fraud. One of the most significant challenges related to **Internet fraud** is cybersquatting.

This fact sheet aims to present the **issue of domain name** ownership and registration, and **their relationship to trade marks**, as well as explaining **the issue of cybersquatting** and the available **dispute resolution mechanisms** that may be used by SMEs to protect their businesses online.

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